

Protecting and Improving the Health of Iowans

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COVID-19 Vaccination Guidelines Phase 1B Tier 2

Prioritization Guidelines

As providers begin to vaccinate individuals in Phase 1B, Tier 2, the following guidelines may be helpful in determining the eligibility of individuals and groups within this tier. Due to limited vaccine supplies, priority groups have been identified based on the risk of exposure and risk of consequences from COVID 19. Iowa is asking many essential workforce populations to wait until more vaccines are available. Many essential workforce populations have been able to implement mitigation measures that have offered protection from the virus. These populations are asked to continue to use the effective mitigation measures until vaccine supply can meet demand.

Group 1

Individuals with disabilities living in home settings that are <u>dependent on attendant care staff</u>, and their attendant care staff.

- To be eligible for group 1, the individual with the disability must also be dependent upon attendant care staff.
- For the purposes of federal disability nondiscrimination laws (such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 188 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act), the definition of a person with a disability is typically defined as someone who (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more "major life activities," (2) has a record of such an impairment, or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.
- Individuals identified as attendant care staff, even if they are a family member, are eligible under this group.

Group 2

Frontline essential workers in the food, agricultural, distribution, and manufacturing sectors who work in or live in congregate settings that do not allow for social distancing.

- To be eligible for group 2, there is a two-part eligibility consideration. First, the person must work in one of the sectors identified. Second, the individual must work OR live in a congregate setting that does not allow for social distancing.
- Examples:
 - Migrant farm workers who live in congregate settings where social distancing is difficult or impossible to maintain.
 - Manufacturing workers whose workstations are within six feet of another worker and there are no alternative solutions for worker safety.
- Workers in industries that *can* social distance should not be vaccinated in Phase 1B; however, providers should use their best judgment in determining eligibility for vaccination.
- Restaurant, grocery, and other essential workers are not included in 1B unless they meet another phase requirement.

Promoting Vaccine Confidence

CDC designed a <u>COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit for Essential Workers</u> to help employers build confidence in these important new vaccines. The toolkit will help employers across various industries educate their workforces about COVID-19 vaccines, raise awareness about the benefits of vaccination, and address common questions and concerns.

Additional References

- Quick Start Guide to Vaccinating Essential Workers
- <u>Infectious Disease Advisory Council Recommendations</u>
- Vaccine Shortage Order, and Phase 1B Supplement